

**CLAIMS**

1. A method of enhancing death receptor-induced apoptosis in a MUC1 expressing cell comprising contacting said MUC1 expressing cell with an effective amount of a MUC1 antagonist.  
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2. The method of claim 1, wherein said MUC1 expressing cell is a MUC1 expressing cancer cell.
- 10 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said death receptor-induced apoptosis is Fas-induced apoptosis.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said death receptor-induced apoptosis is a TRAIL receptor-induced apoptosis.  
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5. The method of claim 1, wherein said MUC1 antagonist is an antisense polynucleotide or a siRNA polynucleotide.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein said MUC1 antagonist is a MUC1 ligand trap molecule.  
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7. The method of claim 1, wherein said MUC1 antagonist inhibits the binding of MUC1 to a PDZ domain.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein said MUC1 expressing cell is within a patient in need of  
25 treatment comprising induction of death receptor-induced apoptosis cell death of said MUC1 expressing cell.